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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of)
Jean-Claude Lancien)
Title: A SPACER FOR PUTTING INTO)
PLACE ON A TUBULAR ELEMENT)
Serial No.: *Not Assigned*)
Filed On: *Herewith*) (Our Docket No. 6980-01)

Hartford, Connecticut, August 19, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRIORITY CLAIM

SIR:

This application is entitled to the benefit of and claims priority from
French Patent Application No. 02 10442 filed August 21, 2002.

Please contact the Applicant's representative at the phone number listed
below with any questions.

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Respectfully submitted,

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